Remarks

In the office action of May 18, 2007, the drawings were objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) for failing to show "half-toning" as described in the specification.

Claims 1, 5, 7, 11, 18, 21 and 22 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Barton et al. (US Patent No. 5,929,874) ("Barton"). Claim 13 was rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Spaulding et al. (US Patent No. 5,539,540) ("Spaulding").

Claims 2, 8 and 20 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barton in view of Morikawa (US Patent No. 5,181,068) ("Morikawa"). Claims 3, 9 and 19 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barton in view of Usami (US Patent No. 6,160,912) ("Usami"). Claims 4 and 10 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barton in view of Dichter et al. (US Patent No. 5,359,436) ("Dichter"). Claim 14 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Spaulding in view of Usami. Claim 15 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Spaulding in view of Morikawa. Claim 16 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Spaulding in view of Dichter.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 6, 12, 17 and 23 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but have been indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The finding of allowable subject matter is appreciated.

Drawings

FIGS. 2 and 8 of the drawings have been amended to show half-toning, and it is respectfully believed that the objection to the drawings has been overcome. FIG. 7 has also been amended to correct the last equation in box 319'.

Specification

Paragraph 13 of the specification has been corrected to remove duplicate use of the reference number 117.

Claims

Claims 1-23 have been canceled.

New claims 24, 25, 26 and 27 set forth in independent form, the subject matter of canceled claims 6, 12, 17 and 23 which have been indicated as being directed to allowable subject matter.

New claims 28 and 29 are directed to a method of adjusting initial CMY data values that includes gray balancing and color saturation adjusting CMY data values in such a manner that more chroma results in more saturation adjustment and less gray balance adjustment of the initial CMY data values, while less chroma results in less saturation adjustment and more gray balance adjustment of the initial CMY data values. It is respectfully submitted that claims 28 and 29 distinguish over the references which do not teach or suggest gray balancing and color saturation adjusting initial CMY data values as claimed

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Conclusion

A telephone interview is respectfully requested at the number listed below prior to any further Office Action, i.e., if the Examiner has any remaining questions or issues to address after this paper. The undersigned will be happy to discuss any Examiner-proposed amendments as may be appropriate.

Respectfully submitted.

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MQ/pc